South Euclid Road Bridge
Spanning Squaconning Creek
at South Euclid Road
Bay City
Bay County
Michigan

HAER No. MI-42

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

SOUTH EUCLID ROAD BRIDGE

HAER No. MI-42

Location:	Spanning Squaconning Creek at South Euclid Road in Bay City, Bay County, Michigan. UTM: 17.264485.4826650 Quad: Bay City, Michigan
Date of Construction:	1900
Present Owner:	Bay County Road Commission 2521 South Huron Road Kawkawlin, Michigan 48631
Present Use:	One-lane vehicular bridge
Significance:	The South Euclid Road Bridge is among the older known surviving examples of steel girder bridges in Michigan, and one of the largest. With an overall length of 148 feet, it ranks among the top twenty-five percent of this type in terms of length. In addition, the bridge has decorative wrought iron railings.
Project Information:	This historic documentation was undertaken in March 1990 in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement by the Bay County Road Commission, Federal Highway Administration, State Historic Preservation Officer, and Michigan Department of Transportation as a mitigative measure prior to demolition and replacement of the bridge.

Janet Vail
Environmental Scientist
WW Engineering & Science
Grand Rapids, Michigan

The existing South Euclid Road Bridge over Squaconning Creek (also known as Dutch Creek) is located in Sections 5 and 6 of Frankenlust Township, Bay County, Michigan (T.13N, R.5E), about one mile southwest of Bay City, Michigan (as shown on the general location map). The bridge and its immediate surroundings are shown on the South Euclid Road Bridge site map.

The South Euclid Road Bridge is a three-span steel stringer bridge that is 148 feet long with a 16.7-foot wide roadway. The spans are about 49 feet long each. Six pilings make up the north and south piers of the bridge. The two piers each have three pilings. These pilings consist of a wood piling surrounded by a corrugated metal pipe. The voids between the wood piling and the pipe are filled with concrete. The west support of the south pier is presently supported only by the wooden pile.

Concrete abutments are found at the ends of the bridge. The approaches to the bridge consist of rubble fill across parts of Squaconning Creek and adjacent wetlands. The bridge is only one lane wide, whereas the approaches on either side are two lanes.

The bridge has a concrete deck and curbs that are supported by jack arches resting on steel beam flanges. These flanges rest on steel girders. South Euclid Road Bridge has decorative wrought iron railings. A standard highway guard rail has been added to the original railing.

The South Euclid Road Bridge was built in 1900 (1). The builder of the bridge is not known and there is no plaque on the bridge. According to the Bay County Road Commission, the original bridge plans are not available. This bridge has been officially determined as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because of its great age among steel girder highway bridges of Michigan and because it is one of the largest surviving bridges among the steel girder bridges of its age group.(1) Eleven similar bridges in Michigan are also eligible for the National Register.

The Historical Museum of Bay County, the Bay County Library, and the State of Michigan archives were contacted regarding the history of the South Euclid Bridge. They were not aware of any readily available written material on the bridge. No significant events or persons are known to be connected with the bridge.

The South Euclid Road Bridge is an important link between Bay City and urban areas to the north and rural areas to the south of Squaconning Creek. This rural area is somewhat isolated, being bounded on the east by the Saginaw River, on the south by extensive wetlands, on the north by Squaconning Creek, and on the West by Interstate 75. The bridge is not wide enough for 2-way traffic. Use of the bridge has greatly increased in the last ten years. The bridge has a rated capacity of 3 tons; this prevents trucks, farm equipment, school buses, and other heavy vehicles from using the bridge. The bridge is presently in poor condition and is deteriorating rapidly to the point where replacement is justified.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. E.O. 11593. Determination of Eligibility Notification, 1986, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service.

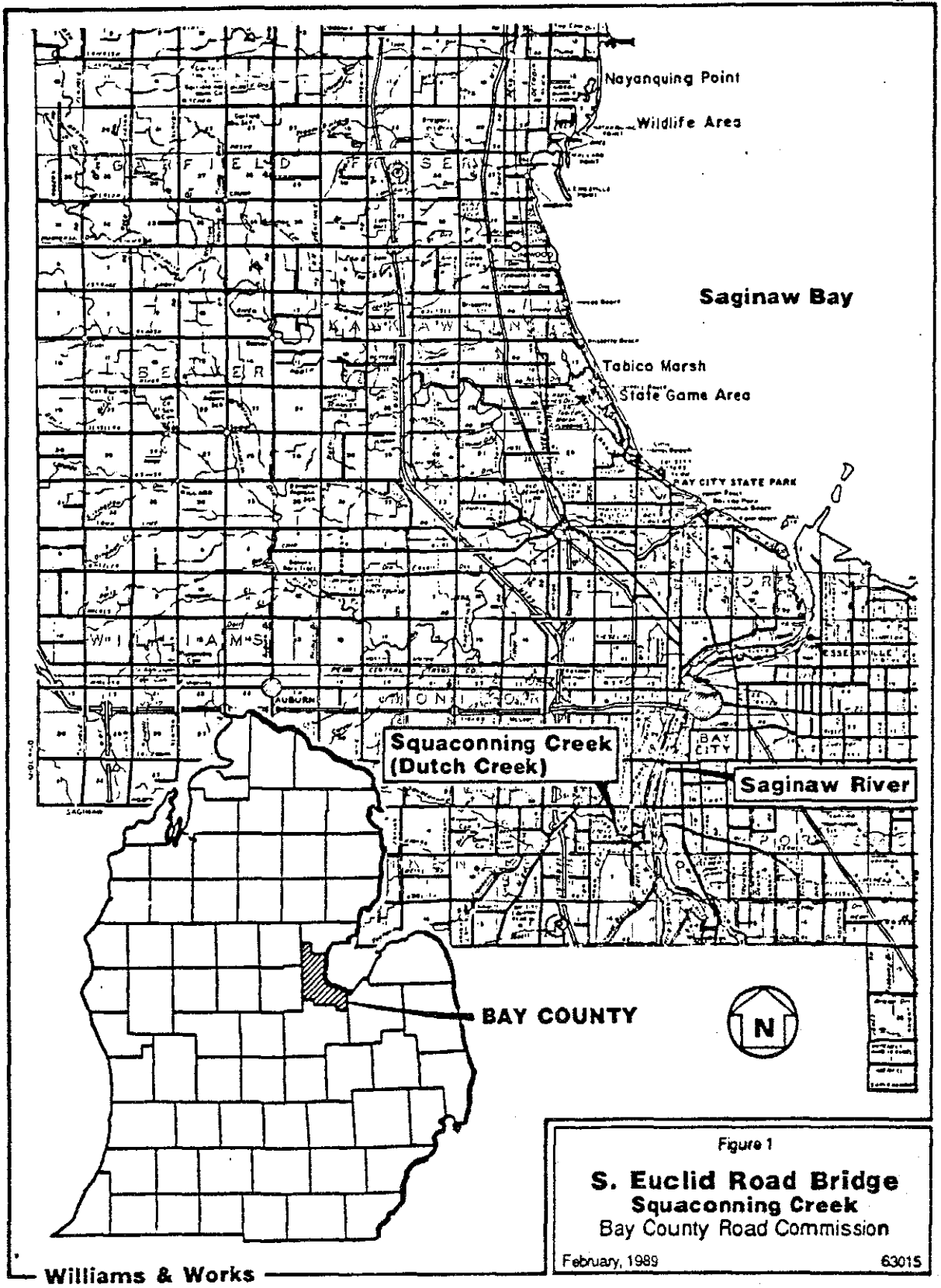

Figure 1

S. Euclid Road Bridge
Squaconning Creek
Bay County Road Commission

February, 1989 63015

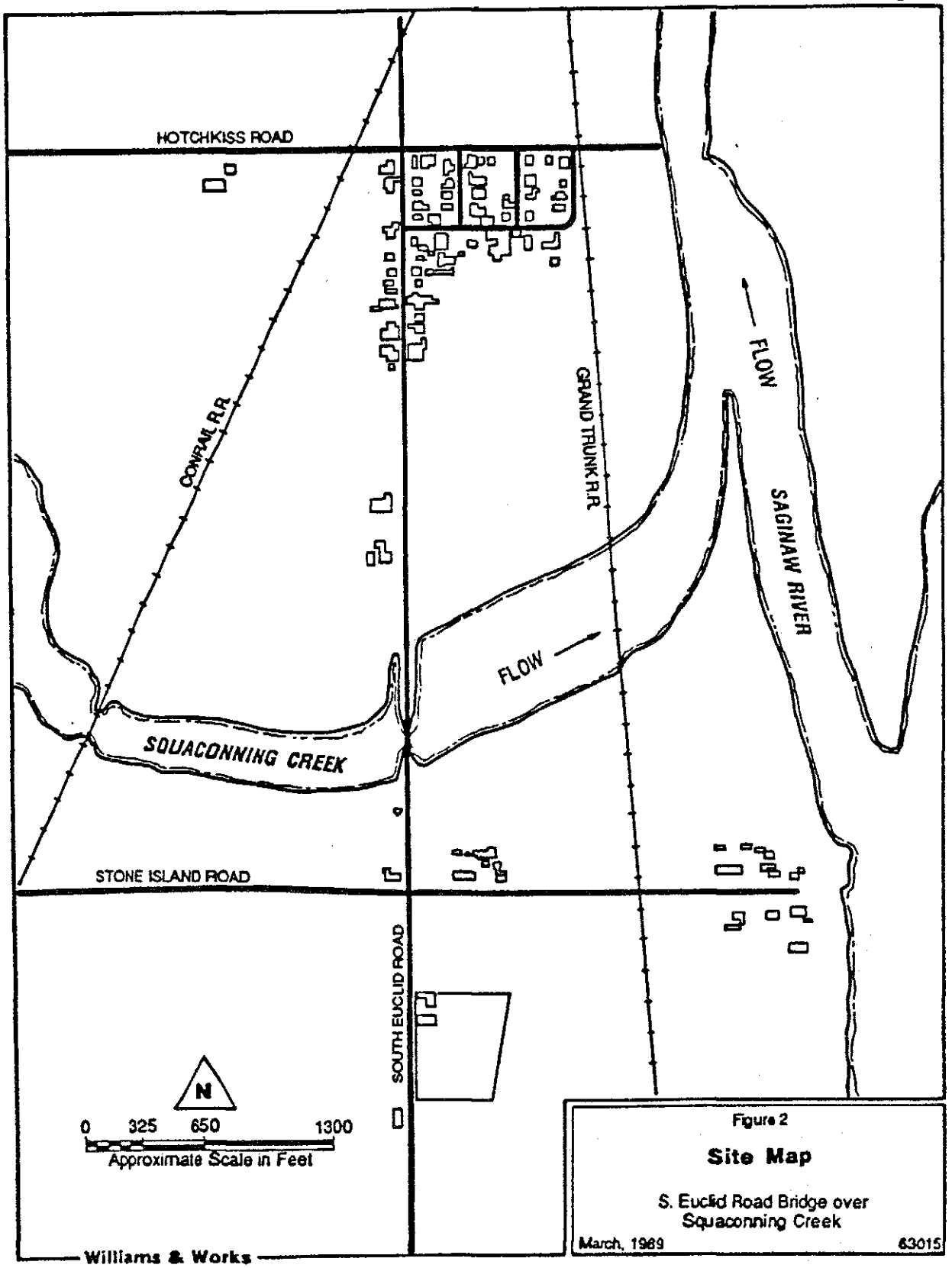

Figure 2

Site Map

S. Euclid Road Bridge over Squaconning Creek

March, 1989 63015